

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-13 AID-05 /077 W

----- 062891

R 141100Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5013

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

C O N F I D E N T I U A L ISLAMABAD 3756

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION LEADERS ARRESTED

REF: ISLAMABAD 3631, ISLAMABAD 3602

1. BOTH ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND VERNACULAR PRESS REPORT THAT FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY (FIA) APRIL 13 ARRESTED SEVEN PROMINENT FORMER MEMBERS OF NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY, INCLUDING THREE SENATORS. SENATORS, WHO WERE ARRESTED ON WAY TO SENATE SESSION ARE HASHIM GILZAI OF BALUCHISTAN, LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION; GHULAM AHMAD BILORE OF NWFP; HUSSEIN SHAH, ALSO OF BALUCHISTAN. ALL THREE ARE NOW MEMBERS OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHICH IS IN EFFECT SUCCESSOR TO BANNED NAP. ALSO PICKED UP ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY WERE KISWAR GARDEZI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF NAP; AND AMIRZADA KHAN, FORMER MINISTER IN NWFP NAP CABINET AND PROMINENT NAP ACTIVIST IN PESHAWAR.

2. STORIES ALSO NOTE ALL HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH  
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TREASON AND CONSPIRACY, THE SAME CHARGES BROUGHT

AGAINST WALI KHAN. ACCUSED WILL REPORTEDLY BE  
TAKEN TO HYDERABAD WHERE THEY WILL BE TRIED BEFORE  
A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL. LATEST ARRESTS BRING TO SIX,  
OUT OF TOTAL OF ELEVEN, OPPOSITION SENATORS WHO  
ARE PRESENTLY INCARCERATED.

3. ARRESTS OF ADDITIONAL FORMER NAP LEADERS IS  
FURTHER INDICATION, AS NOTED REFTELS, THAT BHUTTO,  
IN HIS PROPENSITY FOR "OVERKILL" WILL CONTINUE TO  
USE STRONGARM TACTICS - COMBINED WITH MORE POSITIVE  
MEASURES - TO ENSURE OPPOSITION WILL NOT POSE ANY  
THREAT TO PPP REELECTION PROSPECTS. TIMING OF  
ARRESTS MAY BE DUE IN PART TO NDP NATIONAL CONVENTION  
PLANNED FOR PESHAWAR AT END OF MONTH. ABSENCE OF  
GARDEZI AND ARRESTED SENATORS HAS CAUSED SUBSTANTIAL  
VACUUM IN NDP LEADERSHIP WHICH PLANNED TO ATTEND.  
BHUTTO DOUBTLESS RECOGNIZES ARRESTS COULD FURTHER  
DISCOMFIT AFGHANS, ESPECIALLY SINCE CHARGE OF TREASON  
HAS BEEN LEVELLED, BUT IS FOLLOWING PAST PRACTICE  
OF NOT LETTING POSSIBLE AFGHAN REACTION AFFECT WHAT  
HE SEES AS NECESSARY DOMESTIC POLITICAL STEPS.  
BYROADE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, ARRESTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ISLAMA03756  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760141-0718  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ISLAMABAD 3631, 76 ISLAMABAD 3602  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OPPOSITION LEADERS ARRESTED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006